



4 KING'S  
BENCH  
WALK

THE CHAMBERS OF  
TIMOTHY RAGGATT QC

## Clare Evans – Barrister

Called 1995

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### Areas of Practice

**Crime** - Criminal commercial/financial fraud, serious crime including drugs, violence and sex for single and multi handed cases. Recognised leading junior.

CPS prosecutor - Level 3

### Criminal work

I appear in all kinds of cases across all types of courts. I have been instructed in significant high-profile drugs, fraud, sexual offences and violence matters which have involved 1 to 35 defendants.

**Violence** - I represent defendants charged with the whole range of assaults from common assault, actual bodily harm, grievous bodily harm, attempted murder and murder. I am extremely experienced in conducting cases via "video link" in matters such as these which often involve vulnerable witnesses, especially in domestic violence allegations.

**Sexual offences** - I have a vast experience in all types of offences from rape, sexual assault, offences against children under 13, familial child sex offences, historical abuse and indecent photographs to name but a few. I have successfully defended the majority of rape cases that I have been instructed in. I am extremely experienced in conducting these cases via "video link" and am used to questioning very young (aged 7) as well as extremely distressed witnesses in a professional and effective manner.

**Dishonesty** - cases from basic shoplifting to gang related robbery and firearms matters. I have been instructed in countless burglary matter, both domestic and non domestic including several conspiracies involving large commercial premises with actual losses of over £100,000 cases.

**Drugs** - cases from simple possession of personal amounts of cannabis/cocaine/heroin, to large scale importations of class A and B drugs. I was involved in a £16 million importation of cannabis

via a boat coming from the Netherlands as well as a 35 defendants' conspiracy to import cocaine from Brazil to its end market on the south coast of Britain.

**Road Traffic** - I am experienced in representing clients for driving offences including driving whilst disqualified, without a license, without insurance and whilst under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. I have also been instructed in several tachograph cases and those involving breaches of statutory weight limits for various axle-sizes of commercial vehicles

**Other** - I have been instructed in several matters of perverting the course of justice, from giving false details on a claim form to witness intimidation in a high profile murder case.

I represent defendants at all levels including the Magistrates court, Crown court and in the Court of Appeal. I have instructed and used intermediaries to assist my clients during the trial process.

### **Case Profile**

#### **VIOLENCE**

**R v K** – defence counsel in a 6 handed kidnapping, not guilty.

**R v G** – defence counsel in 5 handed violent disorder, not guilty.

**R v P** – defence counsel in a 3 handed affray, not guilty.

**R v P and R v K & another** - both s.18 charges, both allegations of “bottling” complainants in nightclubs. Both defendants acquitted.

**R v H** – allegation of armed robbery at a petrol station, the defendant was captured on the forecourt CCTV driving his distinctive works van earlier in the day with 3 others for what the prosecution alleged as being a ‘recce’ of the premises. Defendant acquitted.

#### **Murder/attempted murder**

**R v R** – junior defence counsel, domestic violence - diminished responsibility accepted.

**R v S** - junior defence counsel – Boxing day attack outside a pub. Numerous witnesses, CCTV etc.

**R v L & 4 others** – junior counsel in Albanian gangland murder trial on the South coast. After a 6 weeks trial the defendant was one of 2 defendants acquitted of all charges, ringleader received 18 years imprisonment.

**R v P** and 2 others – defence counsel in attempted murder, prosecution accepted s.18 on the day of trial.

**R v N** – sole defence counsel in double attempted murder, client with mental health problems, undiagnosed schizophrenia, in depth knowledge of mental health disposals. 2 x s.18 pleas accepted, s.45A MHA sentence.

**R v W** – attempted murder.

## **SEXUAL OFFENCES**

**R v W & H** – defended H in a multiple complainant’s historic sexual activity trial (earliest complaint was 40 years previously), mixed verdicts, secured a conditional discharge for H.

**R v P** – defending in historic sex trial, male and female complainants, not guilty.

**R v W** – sexual offences involving 7-year-old complainant, cross examination over the video link using intermediary. Acquitted.

**R v R** – alleged homosexual rape, acquitted. Multiple disclosure issues and added difficulty of having a schizophrenic complainant whose symptoms meant an 18 months delay to the trial commencing.

**R v D** – mentally challenged 19-year-old charged with sexual activity with a minor. Successfully applied for the assistance of an intermediary, matter dropped before trial.

**R v B & H** – 2 schoolboys charged with oral and vaginal rape of a 15-year-old girl, acquitted.

## **FRAUD, DRUGS, MISC**

**R v A** – defending in a large-scale Trading Standards prosecution of second hand car dealer; considerable documentary evidence including paper trail of advertisements, auction records, vehicle information. Successfully appealed 3 years sentence down to 2 years.

**R v N** – defending in a Slough Borough Council prosecution of a care home owner regarding misuse of a vulnerable resident’s funds. Voluminous documentary evidence relating to care home (CQC) paperwork, banking evidence for withdrawals in excess of 5 years.

**R v B & others** – junior in C&E prosecution concerning over £200 million of diverted duty and VAT. This was one of a number of nationally prosecuted diversion frauds arising from the London City Bond Warehouse. Preparation for the case involved detailed consideration of over 17,000 pages of evidence. C&E offered no evidence and formal not guilty verdicts entered as abuse argument successfully revealed the participation of an undisclosed C&E ‘mole’ involved in the facilitation of the frauds.

**R v C & 17 others** – sole counsel for female facilitator in a large drug dealing ring based on the South Coast but spread as far as Brazil. Multiple evidential sources including documentary (statements, bank accounts, tenancy agreements, money transfers) and recordings both audio and visual. Defendant pleaded guilty and received 12 years. Successfully appealed this sentence, reduced to 10 years.

**R v S (& 2 others)** – defending in ‘county lines’ possession with intent to supply class A drugs allegation – not guilty.

## **Education & Qualifications**

BA (Hons) English and Classical Studies, Queen Mary College, University of London 1990

College of Law, 1994  
Called to the Bar 1995 (Inner Temple)

### **Professional Courses**

Vulnerable witnesses, Inner Temple  
Excellence in Advocacy, CBA  
Annual attendance at the CBA and refresher/updater courses during the year.  
Annual subscription to Criminal Law Week  
Public Access qualified

### **Professional Memberships**

Member of Inner Temple  
Criminal Bar Association  
South Eastern Circuit Member

### **Interests**

Keen guitarist and all-round amateur musician, hill walking, water-skiing, netball.

### **Contact Details:**

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